

DATES

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May 24

Robotics Workshop: AIAA Houston section hosts *Robotic Helpers for Space Explorers*, a free automation and robotics workshop at the Gilruth Center at 8 a.m. Presentation followed by a panel discussion and a luncheon at noon. Event is free but advance registration is required. Lunch costs \$7.50. Contact Sheryl at (281) 483-8243.

INNOVATIONS 2000: Various technical societies (AIAA, IEEE, ISA, etc.) lead an afternoon of technical sessions covering a wide range of industries and disciplines. Event will be at the Gilruth Center beginning with a luncheon at noon, presentations at 1:15 p.m. and reception at 3:35 p.m. Advance registration is required. Conference fee is \$5. Lunch is \$7.50. For additional information contact Sheryl at (281) 483-8243.

Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar Club will meet at noon May 24 and 31 and June 7 and 14 in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For more information contact Al Jackson at x35037.

Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters meets at 11:30 a.m. May 24 and 31 and June 7 and 14 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For more information contact Patricia Blackwell at (281) 280-6863.

May 25

Radio Club meets: The JSC Amateur Radio Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Piccadilly, 2465 Bay Area Blvd. For more information contact Larry Dietrich at x39198.

Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters International club, meets May 25 and June 1 and 8 at 11:30 at Wyle Laboratories, 1100 Hercules, Suite 305. For more information contact Allen Prescott at (281) 282-3281or Richard Lehman at (281) 280-6557.

June 1

Warning System Test: The site-wide Employee Warning System performs its monthly audio test at noon. For additional information contact Bob Gaffney at x34249.

June 5

Space Society meets: The Clear Lake area chapter of the National Space Society meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Parker Williams Branch of the Harris Co. Library at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. For more information contact Murray Clark at (281) 367-2227.

OUT&ABOUT



Alyson Hickey, NASA flight simulation engineer, at a brown-bag luncheon in April explains how the shuttle training aircraft (STA) helps astronauts. The presentation on the STA and its software system was sponsored by the Society for Software Quality. For additional information on SSQ call Chuck Hoffman at (281) 280-1960 or visit www.ssq.org.

June 6

Quality Society meets: The Bay Area Section of the American Society for Quality meets at 6 p.m. at the Ramada King's Inn on NASA Road 1. For details contact Ann Dorris at x38620.

June 8

Airplane club meets: The Radio Control Airplane Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Clear Lake Park building. For more information contact Bill Langdoc at x35970.

MAES meets: The Society of Mexican-American Engineers and Scientists meets at 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 16, Rm. 111. For more information contact George Salazar at x30162.

June 9

Astronomers meet: The JSC Astronomical Society meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Center for Advanced Space Studies, 3600 Bay Area Blvd. For details contact Chuck Shaw at x35416.

NASA BRIEFS

HUBBLE FINDS MISSING HYDROGEN

For the past decade astronomers have looked for vast quantities of hydrogen that were cooked-up in the Big Bang but somehow managed to disappear into the empty blackness of space.

Now, NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has uncovered this long-sought missing hydrogen. It accounts for nearly half of the "normal" matter in the universe – the rest is locked up in myriad galaxies.

Astronomers believe at least 90 percent of the matter in the universe is hidden in exotic "dark" form that has not yet been seen directly. But more embarrassing is that, until now, they have not been able to see most of the universe's ordinary, or baryonic, matter (normal protons, electrons and neutrons).

The confirmation of this missing hydrogen will shed new light on the large-scale structure of the universe. The detection also confirms fundamental models of how much hydrogen was manufactured in the first few minutes of the universe's birth in the Big Bang.

NASA CREATES NEW OFFICE TO FOSTER HEALTH AND SAFETY

Administrator Daniel S. Goldin recently announced the creation of a new office to increase the agency's emphasis on health and safety on the ground and in space.

Dr. Arnauld Nicogossian will lead the effort as Chief Health and Medical Officer, reporting directly to the NASA Administrator. Dr. Nicogossian will be responsible for developing the agency's infrastructure in areas such as best medical practices, professional development and training, and improvement.

"Dr. Nicogossian's wealth of experience as the flight surgeon for the Apollo-Soyuz program; as a researcher at NASA's Johnson Space Center; and as the Associate Administrator for Life and Microgravity Sciences and Applications makes him the perfect choice," said Goldin. "He will be responsible for developing policy and oversight of the agency's health program."

The Administrator has made health and safety NASA's number one priority, expanding the agency's efforts to create a healthy and diverse workforce focusing on cutting edge research, a permanent human presence in space, and developing new technologies to extend human reach into the far corners of the solar system.

Did you know?

JSC distributes 2,326 copies of Roundup to retirees across the country. One of NASA's retirees recently sent a note to the editor.

Mr. William Jeffs, Editor:

Your punching the right button! The Roundup has matured. The format, articles, schedules, etc. are excellent.

I read and look at the Roundup with pride. Thank you.

Emily Ertl

GILRUTH CENTER NEWS

Sign up policy:

All classes and athletic activities are on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up in person at the Gilruth Center and show a yellow Gilruth or weight room badge. Classes tend to fill up two weeks in advance. Payment must be made in full, cash or by check, at the time of registration. No registration will be taken by telephone. For more information, call x33345.

Gilruth badges:

Required for use of the Gilruth Center. Employees, spouses, eligible dependents, NASA retirees and spouses may apply for photo identification badges from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Cost is \$10. Dependents must be between 16 and 23 years old.

Open 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Contact the Gilruth Center at (281) 483-3345. <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exceaa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

Nutrition intervention program: Six-week program includes lectures, a private consultation with the dietitian and blood analysis to chart your progress. Program is open to all employees, contractors and spouses. For details call Tammie Shaw at x32980.

Defensive driving: One-day course is offered once a month at the Gilruth Center. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$25. Call for next available class.

Stamp club: Meets every second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in Rm. 216.

Weight safety: Required course for employees wishing to use the Gilruth weight room. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Annual weight room use fee is \$90. The cost for additional family members is \$50.

Exercise: Low-impact class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$24 for eight weeks.

Step/bench aerobics: Low-impact cardiovascular workout. Classes meet from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks. Kristen Taraszewski, instructor.

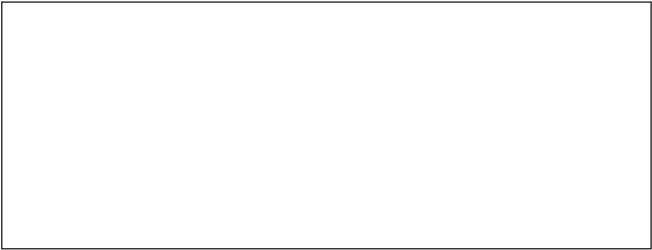
Yoga: Stretching class of low-impact exercises designed for people of all ages and abilities in a Westernized format. Meets Thursdays 5-6 p.m. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks. Call Darrell Matula, instructor, at x38520 for more information.

Ballroom dancing: Classes meet Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for beginner, 8:30-9:30 p.m. for intermediate and 7:30-8:30 p.m. for advanced. Cost is \$60 per couple.

Country and western dancing: Beginner class meets 7-8:30 p.m. Monday. Advanced class (must know basic steps to all dances) meets 8:30-10 p.m. Monday. Cost is \$20 per couple.

Fitness program: Health-related fitness program includes a medical screening examination and a 12-week individually prescribed exercise program. For details call Larry Wier at x30301.

Aikido: Martial arts class for men and women meets 5-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays. No special equipment or knowledge is needed to participate. Aikido teaches balance and control to defend against an opponent without using strength or force. Beginning and advanced classes start each month. Cost is \$35 per month.



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